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Budget talks begin early in Minden Hills

by SUE TIFFIN Editor

Minden Hills council began looking at the 2022 draft budget on Oct. 14, about two months early compared to prior years.

"The intent is to provide council with the same number of meetings to review and discuss the budget, with the ultimate goal of approving the budget during the month of January," said a report from Trisha McKibbin, CAO/clerk. "Passing of the budget during the first month of the year will enable staff to release tenders and procurement documents earlier and begin projects in the first quarter of the year."

While the first draft of the budget shows a 14.5 per cent increase over the 2021 levy, McKibbin noted in her report that "staff recognize that this is not an acceptable increase and look forward to budget discussions in order to work with council on reaching a final budget target."

Last year, the budget was passed in March

see BUDGET page 5



End of a run

After six months working at the Algonquin Highlands location, Hawk Lake landfill attendant Jim Packard (seen waiting for what would be the last three cars to the site after 5 p.m.) will be working somewhere else after the landfill closed for good on Thursday, Oct. 14. See more on page 2. /DARREN LUM Staff

Solutions sought to restore library services in AH

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

Library patrons in Algonquin Highlands have been without library options in the township, with the Dorset book depot being closed since March this year due to mould at

the facility it's housed in, and the Stanhope library being closed to the public for renovations since August 2020.

Chris Stephenson, who started in September as the new CEO of Haliburton County Public Library, spoke to finding a location for the Dorset book depot during an Oct. 13 library board meeting.

"It's definitely something that is on our horizon because every region that is paying taxes into the system deserves library system services, so I'm going to be reaching out to that area for an inquiry about the most convenient places that can pose as a drop-in depot," he told the board. "Basically we need to find

see BOOK page 3



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Frequent bear sightings reported in downtown Minden

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

Tabi Mascia first captured an image of a black bear walking through her backyard near Newcastle Street in Minden this past August, when her security camera picked up the motion outside at around 10:30 p.m. Though she acknowledges the bear hasn't caused any problems, she opted to post the image to social media to alert others in the area who might be out walking late at night, like her teenaged son.

"My son that night actually, his curfew is 11," said Mascia. "He came home at 11 and the bear had come around at about 10:30 or so, so there's a very good possibility of him encountering it when he was coming home."

Mascia reported that first sighting to the MNRF, and hoped that by posting to a local Facebook group, she might remind others in the area to be aware if walking late at night.

"[The MNRF] just gave tips, when my son's walking home, to walk home with music playing, scuff your feet, make noise - because they don't want to see you just as much as you don't want to see them."

Since then, the Mascias have seen the bear, if it's the same one, on four other occasions, including last week - but only in their security camera's images, taken at around 11 p.m. or 4 a.m. in the morning.

"We wouldn't have known if it wasn't for our cameras," she said. "We couldn't hear it. We just got a notification in the morning that there was motion. We checked our cameras and I was like, 'oh my gosh.' Now we've made it a habit every morning to take a look."

The MNRF also advised that food be put away if it was present. Mascia said there isn't food in the backyard - gar-



A black bear has regularly passed through the Mascia backyard near Newcastle Street in Minden since August. Tabi Mascia said the bear is always just passing through, but shared the image on social media to remind those walking late at night in the area to be aware so neither bear nor human is startled./Screenshot from Oct. 15 Nest video

bage is secured in the garage, and according to the video, the bear does not seem to be looking for it.

"That's what kind of makes them think he's just passing through, because he's not stopping," she said. "In the video from last night, he did kind of pause at our bedroom window, but then he kept going."

Mascia wonders if the bear is preparing a den nearby.

In the past few weeks, bear sightings have also been informally reported near Windover Drive and near the fairgrounds, arena and cemetery, the social media posts making note of their presence for those walking in the area.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry offers the following guidance regarding bear sightings: If you do encounter a bear remain calm.

- * Slowly back away while keeping the bear in sight and wait for it to leave.
- * If the bear does not leave, throw objects, wave your arms and make noise with a whistle or air horn.
- * If you are near a building or vehicle get inside as a precaution.
- * Drop any food you may be carrying and slowly move away.
- * If a bear is in a tree, leave it alone. Leave the area. The bear will come down when it feels safe.

Not every bear sighting is an emergency situation. For nonemergencies, call the toll-free Bear Wise reporting line at 1-866-514-2327, TTY 705-945-7641 to report a sighting or for information and advice.

Call 911 or your local police if a bear poses an immediate threat to personal safety and exhibits threatening or aggressive behaviour, such as:

- * stalks people and lingers at the site
- * enters or tries to enter a residence
- * wanders into a public gathering

"The ministry encourages residents in areas with bear sightings to manage attractants and keep dogs on leash in green spaces to reduce the potential for human-bear conflicts," said Morgan Kerekes, MNRF spokesperson. "When bears cannot gain access to non-natural foods, such as garbage or bird feeders, they will not remain in the area."

Additional information regarding attractant management, what to do if you encounter a bear, and living in the same area as bears is available at https://www.ontario.ca/page/prevent-bear-encounters-bear-wise.

Algonquin Highlands closes Hawk Lake landfill

Last Thursday, the Hawk Lake landfill was closed after its final day of operations, having reached capacity.

In 2019, Algonquin Highlands councillors decided to shut the site, which had been deemed not suitable for expansion, rather than converting it to a transfer station.

In a report at that time from Melissa Murray, environmental co-ordinator, Hawk Lake landfill was reported to receive 18 per cent of the township's total landfill traffic, with more than 55 per cent of that traffic being generated between May 1 and Oct. 1. Throughout the year, the average number of vehicles was 42 per day. Factoring in the closure of the Hawk Lake landfill, a report from Murray indicated the remaining estimated life spans of the township's landfills to be 28 years for Pine Springs, 73 years for Oxtongue Lake, and 88 years for the landfill at Maple Lake. A transfer station is also available in Dorset.

-Staff with files from the Minden Times



Hawk Lake landfill attendant Jim Packard locks the gate to the landfill on the last day of operation on Thursday, Oct. 14. Packard said longterm residents voiced displeasure about the closure. /DARREN LUM Staff



THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME OR COTTAGE?

BUYERS ARE EAGERLY
WAITING TO PURCHASE A PIECE
OF PARADISE IN
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS







Book depot needs a new home in Dorset

from page 1

another depot location."

The book depot is located in the Dorset Recreation Centre. In March, an environmental consultant completed a mould assessment of the rec centre, identifying mould growth on gypsum wall finishes and on plywood wall finishes in the basement washrooms, change rooms and utility rooms.

"At the time, the consultant identified the mould as being a result of water infiltration through the foundation and a pipe leak in the ceiling," reads a staff report from the public works department to Algonquin Highlands council on July 15.

Further mould was found in the basement of the building in May and July.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt sits on the library board as a township representative.

"The challenge is that Dorset is a very small place and only half of it is in Algonquin Highlands, and other locations could be a challenge," she said. "I think it is important for that service to resume if it can. Finding a facility among the other two that are there will be a challenge. The museum - it wouldn't have much room, and then, anyway, it's not as if Dorset is a place that has nine municipal facilities ... It's very, very limited, but it would definitely be great to get something organized if and where possible."

Moffatt noted some buildings in the town are closed, though there are some independent businesses.

"Is there ever an opportunity, or have we ever experienced doing something like this, where, books could be managed at an independent business or is that just clouding the waters too much," asked Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts.

"I can certainly look into that," said Stephenson.

Sally Howson, chair of the library board, said that there were nearby options, though outside of the county.

"I think we really need to promote that we have a reciprocal agreement with the Lake of Bays library [Dwight and Baysville branches], and anyone with a Halliburton County card can use that library, and maybe people don't realize that," said Howson. "I'm not sure if we can maybe do a bit of a campaign on that as well, because Dwight's relatively

Board member Curry Humphreys said that before discussing what wouldn't work, she thought it was important to give Stephenson the opportunity to investigate solutions.

"I've said this before and I'll continue to say this, it is not acceptable for us as Haliburton County to say that you can go to Muskoka to get your library books," she said. "We have to find some sort of solution that is going to address those book people in the north-end of Algonquin Highlands, and there's quite a few of us. So let's not find reasons that it's not going to work, let's start by saying what is available and then if we've exhausted those solutions, or possibilities, then we can look at a second tier. But I want to start with an open mind, that there are possibilities of things we can do."

'We hear you loud and clear, we're working on a positive side, and we are going to look for solutions, but we do have a reciprocal agreement, that is something we do have," said Howson.

Moffatt said the conversation was not intended to "put up roadblocks" and agreed that "there are opportunities and we'll look at them," noting that Stephenson's contact would be Algonquin Highlands CAO Angie Bird and that's where he should start, "otherwise it's just speculation."

"But there are very realistic municipal limitations in a town

that small, but certainly the conversation remains open," she said. "It would be unfortunate if you thought that any of the comments were deliberately intended to be any kind of roadblock of public access."

Stephenson said he is committed to doing branch tours before the end of October, and said that while not ideal, there might be short-term solutions including a library book vend-

Board member and Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall noted the relationships Canada Post and LCBO have made regarding depot locations, and said, "I think we have to give Chris a chance, giving Chris an opportunity to inves-

Board member David O'Brien asked when the renovation work at Stanhope, which began in August 2021, is expected to be finished. The branch has been closed pending accessibility upgrade renovations since August last year, and is currently not open to the public, nor to library staff.

"If it's around the corner, it's not too big of an issue," he said. "If it's six months out, that is a big issue."

Moffatt agreed it was important to have the Stanhope library operating in part to offer closer service than Minden to those without service in Dorset.

"Dorset library users are not around the corner from Stanhope, and certainly not from Minden which leads us back to your point about reciprocal agreements at least for now until we get something sorted out," said Liz Danielsen, who is Algonquin Highlands deputy mayor as well as county

Haliburton County has seven branches of libraries throughout the county, and one depot.

Funding for long-term care facilities to increase staffing

Increased staffing levels leading to more direct care for residents at long-term care homes is the goal of the provincial government, according to an Oct. 15 press release from MPP Laurie Scott that announces more than \$4 million for longterm care homes in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

'The Ontario government will provide up to \$270 million this year to long-term care homes across the province to increase staffing levels, leading to more direct care for residents," reads the press release. "This includes \$4,199,774 for long-term care homes in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. This is part of the province's commitment to ensure longterm care residents receive – on average – four hours of direct care per day by 2025. It was also announced that as part of the government's plan to fix long-term care, it will bring forward legislation that will enshrine its commitment to four hours of care into law.'

According to the press release, Hyland Crest in Minden will receive up to \$220,852 for additional staffing this year to increase the hours of direct care for residents, with the facility receiving \$1,352,700 annually more than their current funding by 2025. In Haliburton, Highland Wood will receive up to \$106,861 for additional staffing this year, and by 2025 will receive \$654,528 more than their current funding annually. Extendicare in Haliburton will receive \$156,738 for additional staffing, and \$959,976 annually more than their current funding by 2025.

"This funding will allow long-term care homes in our community to hire additional staff so they can provide a better

quality of care to local residents," said Scott. "This is part of our government's plan to train, hire, and retain thousands of new staff over the next four years."

Currently, reads the press release, residents receive an average of two hours and 45 minutes of direct care from nurses and personal support workers. The funding is planned to increase the daily average to three hours per resident per day by the end of this fiscal year. It also includes \$42.8 million to homes to increase care by allied health care professionals (such as physiotherapists and social workers) by 10 per cent this year.

- Staff

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

October 28 – Regular Council Meeting November 11 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

WASTE REDUCTION TIP OF THE WEEK

Researchers estimate that it takes about 5 litres of water to produce a typical single-use water bottle. Reduce water consumption and waste generation by using a reusable water bottle

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting at 9:00 AM on Thursday, October 28, 2021 during its Meeting of Council via web conference regarding its Fees and Charges By-law. To review the proposed changes to Schedules C-Fire Services; D-Cultural Centre; F-Planning Services; G-Cemetery and H-Community Services, please visit www.mindenhills.ca/council/ to download the agenda.

Dated this 12th day of October, 2021.

Trisha McKibbin, CAO/Clerk ● 705-286-1260 ext. 505 ● tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca

FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

Please note that mandatory Fire Hydrant flushing will be performed throughout the Minden Water Distribution System during the weeks of October 11-15 and October 18-22.

During this period please allow your water to run for 2-5 minutes to clear any discolouration through the home plumbing. For more info, please call Melanie Oates, Clerical Assistant (705) 286-1260 ext. 500.

WASTE REDUCTION WEEK

This week is Waste Reduction Week! Follow our Facebook page for waste reduction tips that you can easily implement at home

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Halloween Fire Safety Message

When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough to see out.

- Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources.
- · Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution.

Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, do not block escape routes.

County supports "catch up and recovery" funding

by STEPHEN PETRICK
Special to the Times

More support will be needed for public health units for "catch up and recovery" as they enter a new stage of the pandemic.

That's the gist of an urgent-sounding letter signed by Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit (HKPRDHU) chair Doug Elmslie. The letter, addressed to Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliott, was endorsed and supported by Haliburton County councillors at their virtual meeting held on Wednesday, Oct. 13.

The letter cited not only the incredible challenge of controlling COVID-19 locally, but also its impact on other public health programs, which took a back seat during the height of the pandemic, when staff and money were redeployed just to keep the virus under control.

"I'm really pleased this letter is coming forward, this is an ongoing theme throughout COVID," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, adding that she has heard stories of dieticians being deployed to work at vaccination centres. "So many programs ... have gone by the wayside."

The letter stated that "throughout the pandemic, resources at HKPRDHU have been diverted from pre-existing services to ensure a timely response to COVID-19 and prevent further spread of the virus throughout Ontario. Similar to other areas of the health sector, difficult decisions have been made about which programs to scale down (or stop) and which to continue."

This has resulted in a backlog of services that included the following: 2,400 students missed school-based immunization programs and an additional 1,200 have not been offered second doses to complete their full immunization series through the school program.

Also, more than 70 small drinking water systems still require inspection. And 5,300 local children are overdue for oral health screenings.

"We are reaching a point locally that if we don't start to catch up on these services the backlog will become too large of a hurdle to overcome," the letter continued. "As such, we intend to build in capacity to begin addressing this issue but will require assurance from the Ministry that extraordinary costs associated with this will be covered."

The letter also states that it's now clear that the work associated with controlling Covid "will require dedicated attention for many years to come." Tasks such as case and contact management, outbreak management and communication will continue and health agencies will need funding to support these programs

Yet, at the same time, funding increases to public health have not happened often

enough, the letter argued.

"Prior to COVID-19, local public health agencies had received only one increase to base funding in the past five years. Despite this, several new programs were introduced to the Ontario Public Health Standards, including Vision Screening and requirements to respond to Infection Prevention and Control Complaints and inspection of private swimming pools."

The letter also notes the "collateral harms" of the pandemic, and asks for support of the recovery of public health.

"Harms such as increased opioid overdose deaths and deterioration of children's mental health have been well-documented over the last year," it reads. "These are two key areas that local public health agencies have a clear mandate to address but will require the resources to do so."

Public health inspectors following Four 'E's approach to enforcement

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference held Oct. 13 with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking.

To date, the health unit has received 296 COVID-related complaints this year, have issued 33 warnings to businesses not complying with the Reopening Ontario Act requirements and have issued 11 part one tickets to seven establishments: four in Northumberland County, two in City of Kawartha Lakes and one in Haliburton County. The health unit will not provide the names of those ticketed establishments or individuals.

Under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, the health unit has issued 145 warning letters to individuals for not isolating, and three charges have been laid under the act, part one tickets for "fail to comply with a Section 22 order in respect of a communicable disease."

"All of the different partner agencies that are involved in the enforcement of the Reopening Ontario act, so this includes public



Dr. Natalie Bocking, of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit, speaks to reporters at a weekly media briefing. /Screenshot from Oct. 13 meeting

health inspectors employed by health units, bylaw officers, police officers, all working together in the field of enforcement for these regulations, are all following what's called a progressive approach to enforcement," said Bocking. The "Four 'E's" approach, said Bocking, is "to engage, explain, educate, and then to enforce."

Through the HKPRD health unit, public health inspectors typically already are en-

gaged in ongoing routine inspections at food premises, and personal service settings and have added "aspects of compliance with different COVID restrictions apart of provincial legislation," as part of those inspections.

The health unit is currently being notified by concerns of the public through a call centre.

"When we receive a complaint, we start with the 'Four 'E's' and we engage with that premise," said Bocking. "Every complaint, we engage with the operator or the premise owner to discuss what the requirements are and what their current status is. If we're seeing more complaints related to that premise, then we will send out a public health inspector if it is one of the sites that public health inspects. If it's not, it might be referred to bylaw or another enforcement partner agency."

Public health inspectors then have a discussion with the owner/operator of the premise, ensure they understand the requirements, and ask that they can demonstrate how they are going to come into compliance with regulations. After follow-up, if the premise continues to not follow regulations, there is a warning, or a ticket issued.

The part one tickets issued to the seven establishments are reported as follows: seven were issued for lack of compliance with masking and face coverings, one was for permitted method of sale that allowed patrons to enter the indoor area during shut down, one was for providing service during shut down, one was for failure to comply with proof of vaccination requirements and one was for obstructing any person performing a duty in accordance with an order made during a declared emergency.

"I'm sharing this broader description with you because I have heard that sometimes when the public doesn't see our public health inspectors in action, they wonder what we're doing, and they wonder what's happening with those premises that are sometimes publicly stating that they won't come into compliance with the regulations, so I'm sharing this to help individuals understand what our process is, and reassure individuals that we are following up," said Bocking. "Our enforcement is consistent with all of our neighbouring health units, and unfortunately in some circumstances we have had to issue tickets and will be continuing to do so in collaboration with our partner enforcement

Aiming for 90 per cent

As of last week, the coverage rate of individuals aged 12 and over across the health unit who have received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine is 86.3 per cent, while 81.5 per cent have received two doses of vaccine.

"So continuing to see steady incremental, inch-by-inch progress of vaccination coverage rate," said Bocking. "The province had reset goals to be 90 per cent of the population that's eligible to be fully vaccinated and I think we're slowly creeping towards that. We're continuing to see an increase, so we are continuing to make vaccine available and continuing to encourage anyone that has yet to be vaccinated to seek out a clinic or a pharmacy or your primary care provider to access that vaccine."

The health unit continues to offer mobile, pop-up and school-based clinics. For more information visit https://www.hkpr.on.ca/2021/09/01/vaccination-clinics/.

Characteristics of cases over the past 14 days

In the last 14 days, of 31 cases identified in the past two weeks, 25.8 per cent were aged 20 to 29, which is consistent with the last several months of case reporting during the pandemic. Of these 31 cases, a few were among those aged 70 to 79 but in general the virus is predominantly impacting young adults and youth under the age of 20 said Bocking. In transmission patterns, 32 per cent of the cases have no known source of transmission, 32 per cent are household contacts, and 32 per cent identify as close contacts, "through social gathering or something similar that has brought people together."

Vaccination status of local COVID-19 cases

Since July 1, 306 cases of COVID-19 have been identified throughout the health unit region. Of those individuals, 63.1 per cent were not vaccinated; 20 per cent were partially vaccinated with one dose or with two doses but still within two weeks of their second dose and 17 per cent were fully vaccinated.

"So we're consistently seeing that the majority of cases identified among those individuals that are not fully protected by COVID vaccine," said Bocking.



Highlands step up for Water Ambassadors

by DARREN LUM Times Staff

The Highlands area is leading the way in helping communities gain access to clean water with its ongoing tally of \$22,668 fundraised for the Water Ambassadors Canada

While the Haliburton walk took place in Glebe Park last Saturday, the county will have another opportunity to participate in a Water Ambassadors Canada Walk this Saturday in Minden.

The walk/run will start at 1 p.m. from the Minden Bible Church, located at 177 Bobcaygeon Road.

There are 179 donors and eight teams contributing across the country, who have had or will host their own walk/ run event, which includes locations in Ontario and one in Calgary, Alberta. There has been \$37, 248 raised nationally. Due to the pandemic related restrictions, the Toronto-based Canada Walk event, which had been held for eight years, was cancelled last year and was held virtually at various locations in the country like this year.

Ursula Devolin, Water Ambassadors Canada Walk team and event co-ordinator said the total collected to this point is all about gratitude.

"I think people are grateful for what they have here and they realize not everybody in the world is as fortunate as we are. Especially in terms of access to clean water, so clean water is the baseline for so much in a community. If a community has access to clean water, people are healthier. They can work more. They can go to school more.'

Devolin said there has been a rise in rates of poverty around the world, making the effort to help even more important than

"I think we need to keep up whatever global efforts we're making to help," she said.

Cited by the United Nations, there was an estimated 9.5 per cent rise of the extreme poverty rate in 2020, which translates to an increase of between 119 million and 124 million people. The arbitrarily chosen international poverty line is \$1.90 a day. In 2019, the rise in the rate of poverty was 8.4 per cent and the increase is being attributed to the COVID-19

Last year, the national effort for the Canada Walk resulted in \$37,000 being raised for Water Ambassadors. Devolin believes that can be surpassed this year.

"We're hoping to raise \$50,000 [for the country]. That's the goal. It's pretty lofty. I think the cheques have arrived in Toronto the other day that haven't been entered. We'll have an update by the end of the month but we're not done. We're still working hard at it," she said.

Donations are being accepted until the end of the month. For more information about this event and its cause visit www.waterambassadorscanada.org/walk-or-run-for-water/.

Budget discussions available to public online

from page 1

after five rounds of talks, the levy increase being 3.75 per cent over the 2020 budget, equating to a tax rate increase of 3.08 per cent for residents.

This year, the most significant increase to the budget again is wages and benefits, which shows a combined cost increase of \$478,085 and which McKibbin said is a result of the 1.7 per cent cost of living adjustment, progression of staff on the

salary grid, the full-cost of staff to operationalize the new recreation complex and additional staff in the building, bylaw and planning department.

The public is able to tune in to budget discussions, which take place during council meetings that are currently being broadcast live virtually via YouTube. The next meeting takes place on Oct. 28. For more information visit mindenhills.ca. Staff reports presented to council are available at mindenhills.civicweb.net





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Love your library

AM GRATEFUL for everything that has been available to me during the pandemic that has helped make a difficult time even slightly more comfortable where possible – technology, curbside service, kind and thoughtful gestures and grace from friends and family and teachers and neighbours and strangers, copious amounts of dark chocolate and strong coffee.

When I look back on this time one day, as we all will, one of the strongest memories of consistent support will be that which was offered through our local libraries.

My family now actually squeals when they see the recognizable purple bag carried through the front door, loaded with fresh books.

They voraciously read through those selections, revisiting those they deem their favourites, while I panic read (with delight) those that are

nearing their due date or perhaps just on the other side of it. The monotony of the lockdowns finally made library users of other family members, too, who associated libraries more with only academic texts and not copious amounts of Louis L'Amour books and Virgin River novels that helped fill the gap between Netflix seasons.

But libraries are more than books. They offer wi-fi to people even in the parking lot who can't get a great signal at home or need a break from the living room office. Avoid paying for a streaming service by renting your movies from your local branch. With your library card, you can access ancestry databases, full daily newspapers, language lessons,

in the comfort of your own home. Need your vaccine passport printed, or downloaded on your phone? Get that done there while you're picking up seeds for your garden, while your grandchildren or spouse make a craft, and then flip through a magazine in a way you just can't do in the grocery line. Don't have time for books? Listen to one in the car, in bed or on vacation with free audiobooks.

This week is Ontario Public Library Week, and while libraries play an extremely valuable and essential role in our communities both collectively and personally

for all of us, and we are grateful for them and hope they can be accessible to everyone in our county, we also thank those who make them work.

Librarians try to help in some way every person – including the most vulnerable and marginalized - who

comes through the doors, either through finding information and refuting misinformation, helping with pesky computer files, acting as a town ambassador pointing the way to businesses and hotspots, recommending great reads suited to you and your personal tastes, reminding you of that time a UFO sighting in Carnarvon was in the newspaper, ordering resources that will fill a gap, renewing your books before you remember to, or simply listening as you share about your day. Appreciate your library, make use of it, and thank the librarian that helps you out.

They're even better than dark chocolate and strong coffee.



Clown Phobia

Scents and sensibility

STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

HORTLY AFTER my spaniel
Rosie and I sauntered into the house
after a long and sweaty upland bird
hunt, Jenn said, "What is that godawful
smell?"

"Rosie rolled in some unidentifiable thing," I noted.

"No, I mean the really bad smell," she said, while plugging her nose.

"Oh, it's probably just my hunting vest," I replied proudly.

Just to be clear, I'm not trying to brag. The only reason I mention this is to il-

lustrate the major difference between hunters who pursue upland game and those who archery hunt for deer, moose, or bear.

The latter go to ridiculous lengths to ensure that their clothing is scent-free. We wash our outfits in baking soda or commercial scent removers. We store them outside and often hang them on a clothesline so that

on a ciothesine so that household odours do not contaminate them. Most of us, also place our hunting clothing in a sealed box filled with cedar or some other natural smell, so that they take on that aroma. After all that, we will only put them on when we get to our hunting grounds. And even then, we will spray them with a scent remover or cover scent before we slip with the wind in our face into our stand. The idea is not to offend or alert the highly sensitive noses of our quarry.

An upland bird hunter, on the other hand, washes his hunting vest and pants every three to four years.

Between those miraculous events, we will have placed many dead birds in the game pouch of our vest so that it is lined with old feathers and dried blood. There

might also be an old soggy dog treat or forgotten apple or sandwich in one or more of the pockets. We will also have gotten our brush pants splattered in mud, covered in burrs and dog slobber. And the smell emanating from your boots would cause any predatory bear to think twice.

So, yes, our gear smells a bit but, rest assured, it is for good reason. First, no one will ever go near or think to steal your upland vest or pants. On the contrary, if you bring them out enough, people who care about you will buy you a new set and offer

to dispose of the old one. That way, it saves you from ever doing laundry.

More importantly, as long as your upland vest smells that way, you will never worry about losing your upland dog.

Not if it has any sense of smell.

The unwritten rule among upland hunters, I believe, is that you should develop a funk so bad in your upland hunt-

ing clothes and boots that your dog would rather gravitate to that than any skunk in the neighbourhood.

Clearly, on that day, I failed. For Rosie decided that rolling in the carcass of a dead rodent of some sort was preferable to being downwind of my vest. Hey, I'm not perfect. In my defense, the vest is relatively new and I have not worked it in for more than two seasons.

All that will change in the week between moose and deer season, I hope. That's when I plan on going out to visit a few of my better upland covers to really build up a stank. I won't build up an appetite, however. The last thing I want is to be tempted by that old sandwich in the right, front pocket.



SUE TIFFIN

Editor

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Thatta boy, Will!

▼ UDDENLY, THE Royal family no longer bores me to tears. I've yawned through years of watching the Queen deliver stultifying television addresses with her cut-glass upper-class accent.

And, one time I spoke very briefly with her husband Prince Philip at a media event, and that conversation had me running to the free bar for a double

Then, of course, there have been the long-running Royal soap operas of Charles and Diana and Camilla, and more recently the breakaway couple Harry and Meghan. Plus, Prince Andrew's troubling connection to sex traf-

ficker Jeffery Epstein.



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

I suppose watching and listening to the Royals has made for entertaining television. But the ongoing domestic or political situations of the Royals, or other members of the rich and famous world, are of little interest to me and have little impact in my working-

However, my disinterest in Royal family happenings vanished quickly last Wednesday.

I was reading an awesome, and totally frightening, story on how climate change could destroy our planet. When I finished digesting the story, I flipped

the digital pages and saw a short piece on Prince William interviewed on climate change.

When Royals speak on controversial issues, they hedge their words to avoid clear and direct statements. They don't say exactly what they are thinking.

Well, William certainly said what he was thinking during the BBC interview. He criticized the space race and space tourism, saying the world's greatest minds should focus on saving Earth instead.

"We need some of the world's greatest brains and minds fixed on trying to repair this planet, not trying to find the next place to go and live," he said.

His comments were aired the day after actor William Shatner and three other 'space tourists' took a short ride into space on a rocket built by Amazon. com founder Jeff Bezos.

It's not known if Bezos and other space toy billionaires heard the remarks, but Shatner certainly did.

Shatner shot back the next day saying the prince is missing the point. Space tourism, he said, is a baby step t o getting polluting industries, like those that produce electricity, off Earth and into space where they produce power that can be sent down to Earth.

Interesting, but I don't think Prince William missed the point at all. The point is that trillions of dollars are being spent by the phenomenally wealthy on multi-million-dollar mansions and billion-dollar ego toys. That money could help to solve the climate crisis and other critical problems such as world hunger and disease. Not to mention poverty and the need for more education.

So, I say: Good on you, William!

It's time for William, other Royals and other members of the world's rich and famous to become effective influencers on change with firm and clear messaging and direct actions.

"We can't have more clever speak," the prince said in the interview. News coverage of William's criticism and Shatner's response lacked context and made it appear the two are on opposite sides of a fence barking at each other.

The prince, however, is well aware that billionaire entrepreneurs like Bezos, Elon Musk and Richard Branson are concerned about climate change and other problems and are donating money to help fix them. However, he feels that the huge amounts of money and effort being spent on space tourism would be better directed to climate change, which is an immediate critical problem.

Shatner believes that climate change is a serious problem that needs to be fixed, but that space tourism is a step towards finding ways of reducing emissions that are creating global warming.

So, they are not on different sides of the fence. They have different views on how to save the world but at least they are talking about it in public.

Speaking of context, it's unfair for me or others to disparage the Queen and other Royals. The Royals have lived in a different world, but there is evidence that they are trying to change and become important parts of the real world that the rest of us inhabit.

Will's comments on spending less on space exploration and more on our problems, is evidence of that.



The sun sets on the trees in Minden. /Photo submitted by Guenter Horst

letters to the editor

Wishing the best for the Huskies

To the Editor,

I would like to thank Paul Wilson and The Haliburton Huskies for making the Minden arena their home. This appreciation also extends to the Minden council for helping to facilitate this exciting endeavour. Junior teams that do not own their arenas typically do not make money. They do, however provide significant economic stimulus to the community in which they reside. Not only does this result in direct dollars to our community it also attracts visitors and awareness to our area. In the years to come, we will also see the benefit and support a local junior team provides to our minor hockey system. The Haliburton Huskies have spent over \$180,000 so far on improvements to our arena! I believe

anything we, as a community, can do to help this franchise be a success is hugely beneficial to all of us. I would like to also thank Minden council for allowing alcohol sales, every effort that helps this team stay in our county is wonderful. As someone who has attended countless junior hockey games in numerous arenas, a two-hour afternoon hockey game is not a wild drunken frenzy, as some may imagine. I also take exception to the worry about our council assisting local businesses. I believe that should be the rule, not the exception. I join everyone in wishing the best for this junior team and nothing but success in the years to come.

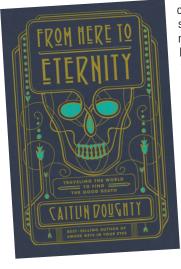
> Andrew Hodgson Minden

Paying tribute



As we prepare for a Remembrance Day edition of the Times, we invite you to send us photos of veterans in your family with a connection to Minden Hills or Algonquin Highlands. Please send photos by Oct. 29 to sue@haliburtonpress.com.

HCPL's Non-fic Pick - October



Fascinated by our pervasive terror of dead bodies, mortician Caitlin Doughty set out to discover how other cultures care for their dead. In rural Indonesia, she observes a man clean and dress his grandfather's mummified body. Grandpa's mummy has "lived" in the family home for two years, where the family has maintained a warm and respectful relationship. She meets Bolivian natitas (cigarette-smoking, wish-granting human skulls), and introduces us to a Japanese kotsuage, in which relatives use chopsticks to pluck their lovedones' bones from cremation ashes.

With curiosity and morbid humor, Doughty participates in compelling, powerful, and fascinating death practices almost entirely unknown in the western world. Featuring Gorey-esque illustrations by artist Landis Blair, From Here to Eternity introduces innovation in death-care and body disposal (green burial), explores new spaces for mourning (America's only open-air funeral pyre) and reveals unexpected new possibilities for our own death rituals. Check out the e-book from Haliburton County Public Libraty 's website today.

Paramedic service plans for population growth

by STEPHEN PETRICK Special to the Times

Some big decisions loom for Haliburton County on how to manage paramedic servic-

es, in light of a perceived growing population. Haliburton County councillors voted on Oct. 13 to begin the process of developing a new master plan for ambulance service.

The plan, which is expected to cost taxpayers \$100,000, will look at "everything to do with our services," said emergency services director Tim Waite. It could lead to new recommendations on base locations, staffing levels and how to handle increased call

Waite said Haliburton County Paramedic Service has seen "significant growth" in call volume over the last 18 and 19 months. He suspects that increase is partly due to COVID, but also due to growth in population.

Councillors supported the request to begin the master plan with no reservations. The unanimous vote means that a request for proposal will be sent out for consulting firms interested in taking on the project. The county will also apply to access "modernization funding" supplied by the province, to cover the costs

Waite's report led to a spirited discussion on the need for Haliburton County to address the challenge of providing health care needs

at a time when the population of the county is perceived to be growing. Yet, several councillors noted, it's hard to know the precise extent of that growth.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts argued that Statistics Canada data on the county's population is unreliable, as it can't keep up with the fluid nature of people moving in and out of cottage country. That means the county must plan for health services while unsure of how many people might need the service

County chief administrative officer Mike Rutter agreed that planning health-related services is tricky and that the number of people in the region who are attending hospitals because they don't have local family physicians is a sign that the population is growing and the county must adapt.

"[Health care workers] continue to see growth on a regular basis for hospitalizations," he said. "It does show that even though our population numbers aren't increasing (officially) we are seeing a lot more people here. When they are hospitalized here, they don't have a physician locally to help with their care.'

Waite said that the master plan would look at how paramedic services are provided in the county over the next 10 years, approximately.



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October 30 @ 4:30 p.m. vs the Lindsay Muskies

November 6 @ 4:30 p.m. vs St. Michaels Buzzers

Hike Haliburton a go for winter

by STEPHEN PETRICK

Special to the Times

County councillors want to get the tourism industry moving again; they've given a hearty endorsement for Hike Haliburton Winter Edition, 2022.

Council gave the green light for staff to begin preparing for a "full scale" winter hiking festival, not unlike the one held in February 2020 shortly before the COVID crisis forced the closure of such events.

This winter's festival is set to return Feb. 5 and 6. Council voted unanimously to support the return of the festival after chief administrative officer Mike Rutter presented a report saying that the festival could still be held while being mindful of COVID protocols.

He also said that when the event was held in 2020, 83 per cent of participants were seasonal or permanent residents of the county. Therefore, the festival is a nice event to get local people out and spending money at local businesses, but not an event that leads to a lot of travel and the increased COVID risk that tourists bring. "It's time to get people out and about,"

said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt, at the Wednesday, Oct. 13 virtual

Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell added that the event's \$3,000 cost to Haliburton County taxpayers is "a small price to pay to bring some normalcy back to the

community."
The Feb. 2020 event featured 20 guided snowshoe hikes spread out across the county, with each municipality represented. There were about 300 participants, for an average of about 15 participants per hike. Twenty-two volunteer "hike leaders" guided the hikes, which ranged from 1.5 to 10 kilometres.

County staff feel the event has a good return, as a survey showed that 58 per cent of participants in 2020 spent money at local restaurants on the weekend.

Councillors had the option of supporting a scaled down version of the event, or deciding to not hold the event at all, but council unanimously agreed to hold a full-scale event.

Last year's winter edition of the festival was planned, but ultimately scrapped when the province entered a strict shut-

Minden Pride group approaches Rainbow Railroad goal

Minden Pride's Rainbow Railroad team continue to respond to hundreds of requests is thrilled to announce they are very close to achieving the goal of raising \$10,000 to help an LGBTQ2+ person in danger in Afghanistan. At press time, \$9,740 - or just over 97 per cent of the goal - had been raised to move someone from imminent danger to

"Out of all active teams fundraising for Rainbow Railroad across North America, our Minden Pride Team is the largest supporter," said Allan Guinan, chair of Minden Pride. "It is an amazing accomplishment; in less than two months our small local community has dug deep and reached this incredible milestone. It demonstrates how committed the people of the Haliburton Highlands are to helping those discriminated against for being who they are."

"Rainbow Railroad is pulling out all the stops to support people on the ground in Afghanistan and working to get them to safety" said Dane Bland, director of philanthropy for Rainbow Railroad. "On top of this, we for help from around the world. This money raised by Minden Pride will go directly to support this mission, and our crisis response work. We are grateful!"

Rainbow Railroad is a global not-for-profit organization helping LGBTQI2+ people facing persecution based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, who are vulnerable due to systemic, state-enabled homophobia and transphobia. This year alone, they have helped bring over 150 people to safety worldwide. Rainbow Railroad is a registered Canadian charity. For more information visit rainbowrailroad.org, or donate at http://donate.rainbowrailroad.org/team/374209

Minden Pride is a volunteer-driven, nonprofit Haliburton County committee operating as part of Haliburton County Community Cooperative Inc. and is comprised of residents and local business owners.

- Staff

COVID-19 CONTACTS, CASES, HOSPITALIZATIONS, AND DEATHS BY COUNTY													
County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current High Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to Date)	Hospitalization s (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)					
Haliburton	0	0	0	148	147	3	1	0					
Kawartha Lakes	5	7	1	1,303	1,253	51	45	13					
Northumberland	5	21	0	1,022	1,000	36	17	0					
Total***	10	33	1	2,473	2,400	90	63	13					

Holding steady in Haliburton County

Zero cases of COVID-19 have been identified in Haliburton County as of the health unit's update on Oct. 18. In Northumberland County and City of Kawartha Lakes, there are five current cases of COVID-19 that are unresolved, with a total of 33 current high-risk contacts./Screenshot from hkpr.on.ca



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to sue@haliburtonpress.com

Lions serve up a feast for first in-person event of pandemic

by SUE TIFFIN Editor

Brian Moore was excited all day Saturday, knowing that the Minden and District Lions Club was hosting the service club's first in-person event in 19 months that evening. An Octoberfest-themed dinner event saw 52 people served, either in two seatings at the Lions Hall in Minden, or by take-out.

'We were so excited," said Moore, who is club secretary. "It was so nice to see our friends and the patrons. There were some new faces, but a lot of the people who had supported our spaghetti dinners had come out. For us it was very exciting, it was a good first start."

About 10 members of the Lions Club participated in making the event - the first since Feb. 2020 - happen, following strict public health measures that included a requirement that everyone entering the building must show proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

That night, Moore said he could barely sleep, with his mind "reeling with ideas" for future events, with more themed dinner evenings and holiday celebrations planned for upcoming months.

"It was really nice to get back at it," said Moore.



More than 50 diners were served in two seatings on Oct. 16 at the Minden Lions Club Octoberfest Dinner, which offered both in-person and takeout meals. The meal included Octoberfest brats, chicken, German potato salad, coleslaw, buns, dessert and non-alcoholic beer or other beverages. /Photo by Victoria Bingham

Minden Whitewater Preserve volunteers care for 'local jewel'

Each spring and fall, volunteers from the whitewater community drive back into Minden to assist in opening up or shutting down the volunteer-run Minden Whitewater Preserve.

This past weekend, more than 25 volunteers from local areas and as far away as Huntsville, Peterborough, Toronto and Niagara Region worked to take care of this local jewel.

The director of the preserve, Dave Gillespie of Peterborough, said the high turnout was due to the increased use the area has had during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kayakers, canoeists, local cottagers and visitors to the area have been frequenting the privately-owned property to enjoy its nature trails and captivating views of the Gull River's whitewater rapids.

This past weekend on Oct. 16, volunteers put up new trail signage for hikers, spread new wood chips, fixed steps, as well as prepared campsites and the two-storey banquet hall for winter shutdown.

Gillespie stated that, with the new Horseshoe Lake Dam being completed and recent trail improvements, Whitewater Ontario has been quite pleased to see a large number of locals come out and enjoy the community asset.

He also noted they will be in talks with the Township of Minden Hills and others this winter to host more events in Summer 2022. A two-day seasonal spring opening will happen in May 2022.

- Submitted by Whitewater Ontario



Last weekend, volunteers Dawson Gillespie, Tom McKay and Dave Gillespie erected new trail signs inviting visitors to hike the trails around Minden's Whitewater Preserve. / Photos submitted by Whitewater Ontario

Volunteers **Candace Rose** Joiner and Peter Eggers spread wood chips at the Whitewater Centre on Horseshoe Lake Road last weekend.





Ewan McKay, **David Duff** and Gregg McKay fixed the steps at the Whitewater Centre leading to the dam last weekend.

Hyland Crest reconnects residents and trick-or-treaters

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

It's not Halloween night without a stop at Hyland Crest in Minden for a visit between costumed little ones and grinning residents of the long-term care home, but that annual tradition was one of many missed in 2020 during the first year of the pandemic.

This year, Lindsay Lester, life enrichment program manager for Haliburton Highlands Health Services, is determined to find a way to connect the community once again - and fill treat bags.

"Hyland Crest has been known for years as the place that gives out the large chocolate bars, so I want that to come back," said Lester, who noted that she's already ordered the supplies needed. "When we're out, we're out, but we have a backup of chips."

Lester, fellow staff, and Hyland Crest residents are inviting the public to make Hyland Crest a stop on their trick-or-treat schedule again, though residents and visitors will be kept separate, waving to each other through a video display set-up.

"Some of the family members just felt more comfortable that they weren't in close



Pre-pandemic, kids made sure a visit to Hyland Crest happened at some point along their trick-or-treating route on Halloween evening. Now, the long-term care home is using technology to safely welcome visitors on Oct. 31. /File photo

proximity, as much as it breaks their heart to do because they want that interaction, but it's just not totally safe yet with them being the most vulnerable population," said Lester. Families are invited to come to the main entrance of Hyland Crest at 6 McPherson Street in Minden on Oct. 31, where they'll be greeted by staff with a laptop and camera - kids can wave, strike a pose or do a dance and residents will be taking it all in from one of the two gathering spaces inside the facility.

"I just want the public to know to come here that night, and the residents will be overjoyed to see them, even though it's through [technology,] it'll still mean a lot to them, because they miss them very much – the residents miss the children," said Lester.

Typically, elementary students walk over from Archie Stouffer Elementary School throughout the school year to visit with residents and engage in different activities and programs, but those meet-ups are still on hold.

"It's definitely a void that needs to be filled as soon as we're able to," said Lester.

On Halloween night, a spirited visit through a screen will allow for a safe and entertaining connection.

"We're just going to pack the place, with staff on each floor giving the residents popcorn, so the smell of popcorn is in the air and it will be like entertainment for them, being able to see the kids in front of them on the big screen," said Lester.

Residents also enjoyed a haunted house this week, and are planning for "tons of sweets" at a Halloween party on Oct. 29.

Cultural Centre celebration invites trick-or-treaters to get into the spirit

by SUE TIFFIN

Editor

While the Minden Hills Halloween event has always been a popular family outing, for the second year in a row the celebration will be held outdoors during the day at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre instead of the indoor late-night party held at the community centre

Last year, Elisha Weiss, community development coordinator, planned the event alongside cultural centre staff.

"It was really good, and we heard good feedback from the families that came that they preferred the outdoor event to the indoor event that we normally do," she said. "It was during the day, and outside, so it wasn't as crazy. The indoor one gets a little chaotic with that many people, and it went late, from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. – so a lot of the younger kids would only come for half an hour and then they'd have to go to bed."

At the outdoor event this year, families will need to pre-register by emailing Weiss with the number of people attending, and their choice of time slot – the first runs from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., the second runs from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

"We have five different activity stations set up around the grounds of the museum, which is a lovely backdrop with the buildings, the colours were wonderful last year," said Weiss. "They can float around to the different activity stations they want to try, some are a little more challenging, and some aren't, so different age groups can play."

Activities include a tic tac toe game with gourds, a bingo station, a "mummy run" with potato sacks, a pumpkin relay and a balancing broomsticks game.

"And of course at all of these stations, kids get a chance to win a prize which is candy, and really even if they don't win, they get candy anyway," laughed Weiss. "It's just a whole day of candy!"

Costumes are definitely recommended, as in the last half-hour of each session a costume contest is held, with three prizes – an individual in the newborn-to-seven age group, an individual in the eight-to-12 age group, and a family costume group being awarded. Kids receive a goody bag on their way out.

While it's recommended to wear personal protective masks, it's not required, and nor is proof of vaccine, as the event is outdoors with a limit of 100 people (including staff, who will be masked).

The event will be held Oct. 30, with admission by donation. Pre-register by emailing eweiss@mindenhills.ca.

"It's a fun way to spend part of your Saturday with your family, to get them into the Halloween spirit – and try out your costume," said Weiss.

ENOUGH WITH THE FROZEN DINNERS.



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An outdoor Halloween event at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre planned for Oct. 30 invites families to celebrate the holiday with festive activities, candy giveaways and a costume contest on the Cultural Centre grounds. Minden's popular Halloween event is typically held indoors at the community centre but moved outdoors in 2020 as seen in this photo from last year's celebration. /File

Mortality explored in ongoing exhibition and upcoming workshops

Returning is a joint collaborative exhibition at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery which deals with mortality. The exhibition speaks to what many people are thinking of today - death. A global pandemic and mass extinction from climate change will have that

The joint work in this exhibition blends the use of photography, the Witness; and clay, the Fragility. The theme throughout is the use of natural items, like dried leaves, flowers, and seed pods, to create images that imitate a human form or represent a sense of passing, transiency, and mourning. Each are thoughtfully made based on the artists' experience of working with elderly people with art therapy.

The artists, Barbara Brown and Cynthia O'Brien, compare the work to the artistic theme of memento mori, meaning 'remember you will die.' Artwork in this theme historically was created to remind the viewer of their mortality and of the shortness and fragility of human life. By implementing the imagery of plants and nature into these pieces Brown and O'Brien emphasize the idea of growth, living and decay.

Death is a common topic in art. In the 18th century the Dutch created the Vanitas paintings with elements that were symbolic of life and death. Often done as a still life, these paintings were arranged items where a wilting flower meant death, as did smoke and a skull. A poppy represented mortal sin and a tulip naivety. A lit candle was the human soul and a mirror meant truth. A key could mean a number of things but was considered a symbol of resurrection. A peeled lemon reminded the viewer life is attractive to look at but bitter to experience.

Consider the role an apple has been given in human culture. Is it wisdom or the temptation of original sin? Tomatoes and grapes were also used to represent a number of virtues. Peaches meant truth and salvation.

The Grim Reaper is thought to have been first created in the 14th century Europe during the worst pandemic, the Black Plague. In the Victorian age, tombstones were engraved with elaborate images, giving meaning to those buried below. A broken column or chain meant life cut too short. A weeping willow, an ivy or a laurel wreath meant victory, peace and paradise.

Symbolism allows for personal interpretation. Piecing together the meaning is a way of resolution. Compared to how death is ever present in the media today, symbols are a subtle reminder. Viewing art that peacefully and meaningfully conveys death as a passage that is a part of all of us is appealing. It falls in line with classic antiquity where Greeks looked upon death no different than life. It is a cycle - a regeneration.

Works by Andre Lapine have been included in this exhibition. These pieces speak to symbolism and commemoration. The painting "Farewell' is an example of how a certain composition of objects and colours can symbolize meaning. Two figures are centrally located along a shoreline, watching a setting sun as birds fly overhead. The figures are of a man and a woman, the man is dark and realistically illustrated, the woman is fainter, almost transparent, in white clothes. She has an ethereal feeling to her. The birds are flying in a 'v' formation, possibly heading north, migrating in preparation of winter. One may interpret the symbolism here as the birds representing moving on, the woman someone who had recently died and the man coming to accept the reality. The sunset is brilliant and vibrant, symbolizing a sense of heaven.

At this time in our history seeing our mortality symbolized as fading flora, a human figure within grass, and a mound of earth, is oddly comforting and lends us a reasonable explanation. It may be an answer to look upon and reconsider our past cultural ways of dealing with death and embrace more of this fragile, ethereal life we have.

Haliburton County's average age is 65. There is more thought towards mortality here than perhaps other places. This exhibition allows for methodical thought and consideration. One installment in particular, Columbarium: A Consequence of Life, is meant to be a place of solace, to commemorate those who have died by writing a message to them and inserting this into the

The gallery will be offering two workshops that speak to the theme of mortality. Fay Wilkinson, Registered Expressive Arts Practitioner, Storyteller and Artist will be guiding sessions on "Personal Loss" on November 6 and "Grief for the Planet" on November 13.

"Personal Loss" will focus on remembering those who have died, inspired by the 'Columbarium' in the exhibition. This will be an opportunity to represent your relationship with the death of a loved one, a cherished companion, or a dear friend. Participants will create a container for their grief and gratitude to help represent who that person was, and how they impacted their life. Participants are encouraged to bring copies of photos and items that are

symbolic of the relationship you would like to remember.

"Grief for the Planet" addresses the theme I am made of the planet, and the planet remembers me. Participants will explore the physical and emotional connections we have as humans with the environment. There will be an opportunity to embody the grief you feel for the future of the planet as well as representing a call to action. Participants will need to bring copies of photographs taken or found that represent literally or metaphorically how the planet is in trouble (e.g. deteriorations, decay, disintegration), or photos that show a lack of respect for the environment that is a detriment to the future and natural materials (leaves, sticks, flow-

Both workshops will involve some writing. For this participants will need to bring a notebook & pen. There is no need for artistic ability or past experience in the arts. This is a workshop where you set the pace and level of comfort. You will have available to you a wide variety of art supplies.

Each workshop will be offered from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a short break for lunch. The cost per person is \$25 + tax. Registration is required, please call the gallery at 705-286-3763. Space is limited and COVID-19 public health measures will be in place.

Agnes Jamieson Gallery is located in the town of Minden at 176 Bobcaygeon Road. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation.

- Submitted by Agnes Jamieson Gallery



Getting a grip on education with boot camp

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

When Grade 12 Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student Grace Hudson started the day, she didn't think she would enjoy plumbing, but that changed after she participated in the Tools in the Trades Boot Camp held at the school on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

Hudson came into the day with aspirations of studying interior design at post-secondary school, as part of a plan to stay in the area and make money with an effort to buy and flip houses, but was left intrigued by the prospect of adding plumbing to her future after she learned how to install a sink faucet and its related piping and fittings.

Hudson was one of 27 participating senior students and said the hands-on plumbing experience really changed her perception of the trade.

"I kind of had an idea it was more dirty and not that fun, but, honestly, I really enjoyed what we did today," she said. "Now I kind of understand it is something I want to do and I like the hands-on. With my future goals, it's definitely something I could consider to do and maybe even do it on the side or work with a team."

She encourages other students to participate in boot camps like she did where students learned to install a sump pump and a sink faucet.

"A lot of people have a fixed idea about the trades and stuff, but it definitely is fun and not what you expect when you get out and do it," she said.

Part of Ontario Support Youth program, the day-long boot camp enabled an opportunity for Grade 11 and 12 students at the high school to receive hands-on lessons in plumbing and provided advice about what employers are looking for in employees, including a brief presentation about ever-increasing local demands in the trade industry by Aggie Tose, executive officer with the Haliburton County Home Builders Association.

Tose said she believes in facilitating the next generation of trade workers.

"I want the door open to the school and the association because we've got 58 companies that need employees and we need them from somewhere. We've just got to open the door," she said.

She adds there are seven people on the G.J. Burtch Construction Enterprises Ltd. team that are between the ages of 55 to 62

"Those are getting old. They don't like roofs They don't like bending down," she said. "And everybody is in the same boat."

Right now, the trades, particularly masonry and plumbing have the greatest need in this area, Tose said. She thought it was helpful for the boot camp to be set up in full view of the public in front of County Road 21.

"Especially people driving by. They need to know that we have opportunities for people. And the trades is such a great opportunity. It really is. There are so many opportunities for them," she said.

Each participating student left with new skills and was also given a starter tool kit valued at \$250. The kit included a pipe cutter, wrenches, a multi-head screwdriver, a level, adjustable wrenches, tape measure and a bag to hold everything.

Hudson was impressed by the collection of tools, particularly the pipe cutting tool and the multi-head screwdriver. She said she could install a vanity at her residence on Kushog Lake now.

The senior student welcomed the practical lesson, but also the theoretical lesson related to what employers want.

"You don't need the experience and it's more about your attitude and your qualities you have as a worker like being on time and your problem solving skills and organization. And your attitude is huge. They taught you how to get a job in the trades and what they're looking for and what makes you look good. They definitely did a lot. They also [helped] you do mock interviews, which was really useful," she said.

HHSS transportation and construction teacher Chris Simpson, who has been at the school for 15 years, appreciated the boot camp for how it offered more than two dozen students tangible skills, but can also prove to be beneficial to employers and the community.

"You couldn't do this for that many individual kids, but having this boot camp through [Ontario Support Youth] is just phenomenal. They have four different boot camps that they can run. Our board is going to have three," he said, referring to plumbing in Haliburton, automotive at the Bracebridge Muskoka Lakes Secondary School in Bracebridge, and mill-



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students

Scott King, from left, Myles Sharp (under sink) and Logan

and pipes during the Tools

in the Trades Boot Camp on

Tuesday, Oct. 12 at the high

not only received instruction

and hands-on plumbing

experience, but also heard

school in Haliburton. Students

what employers are looking for

when hiring. /DARREN LUM

Malette work together to install

a sink faucet and related lines

Each Trades Boot Camp participant received a starter tool kit valued at \$250. Students not only received instruction and handson plumbing experience, but also heard what employers are looking for when hiring.

wright work in I.E.Weldon Secondary School in Lindsay.

"Actually be able to practice the soft skills, essential skills, as part of a workshop and then go and do some hard handson [skill building]. Today they plumbed up vanities. Installed taps. Put together some fittings, some piping, and got a wicked tool kit out of the deal, a nice lunch and hopefully [retain] some skills," he said.

Simpson said this opportunity was possible from a coordination between the board and the boot camp organizers.

His hope is for it to continue to be offered next year.

"Absolutely, because it's not something that I don't have time to do, nor do I have the funding to do. I would love to do more plumbing in the courses, but at the price of everything, it's just not feasible. Whereas we got an organization that is funded by the government, as well as private organizations. Why not? Why not? I think it's really worthwhile for them to do it," he said.

He would like to have this be offered every year, so more students are exposed to the trades that need new people.

"Average age of most plumbers and a lot of trades people is rolling towards 60. We're going to be [facing] a huge, huge shortage in the near future," he said.

He's heard from a friend looking for a plumber that they will have to wait for two months before their needs are met.

Simpson valued how the outdoor lesson's are effective for his students.

"They were all engaged. It was beautiful to watch," he said. The event also provided HHSS hospitality students an opportunity to put their skills to work, as they helped to make and serve lunch to the boot camp participants.

Simpson thought having the boot camp set up in front of the school was ideally situated.

"We do have demands [that need to be met in the trades] and, hopefully, if someone is driving by and they have a son or daughter here maybe it will give them more of an enticement to maybe come and participate. The biggest thing is exposure. There is only so much we can do in the normal every day courses, so when we get the opportunity to do something like this [we need to] absolutely do it," he said.



A pipe is cut, using the pipe cutting tool provided to each student at the Tools in the Trades Boot Camp.

Giving real world work experience key to prosperity

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

This story is the first in a series of articles that will highlight co-op placements.

Labour shortages are affecting communities across the continent and Haliburton County is included.

The Highlands has seen exponential growth locally in construction and an increase of new residents, who have come to live here from urban areas, which has added to the demands for services and the trades.

One solution to this shortage is co-operative education said Haliburton Highlands Secondary School teacher Jason Morissette, who helps facilitate and coordinate the program that brings together employers willing to teach and share their expertise and students interested in learning and gaining experience and training in specific fields of work.

"Practically every job site I'm going to these days is saying that there is a labour shortage. And how do you address part of that labour shortage is think big picture and think of programs like this and think, wow, there is a huge future right in there of students looking for an opportunity to build skills. And many of them do love living in their community. It's the place they grew up. They would like to reside and live in their community, but also need career opportunities to do that and I think that's based on that partnership. If we are able to provide those for them ... see it as a social responsibility of community to be able to do that and, you know what, the employers I have they are amazing and they really, really have great hearts and feel so proud and feel inspired when they see young people want to pursue their career path that they are in and have done.'

Morissette believes Haliburton County has the oldest median age for trades people in the province and expects a greater need for skilled workers when they retire. Also, there will be economic benefits for the area, if the community sees the value of the co-op program.

Co-op allows students to earn high school credits by integrating course curriculum with learning at a work placement. A placement that teaches a skilled trade to students is referred to as an Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) placement. Students can earn up to a maximum of 12 credits towards the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) through co-operative education. Students are unpaid and can earn one credit for one period of co-op, two credits for a half day of co-op, and four for a full day of co-op. All insurance is covered by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board while working at their placement.

It is open to Grade 11 and 12 students, who are interested in a variety of education pathways such as an apprenticeship, college diploma, university degree, or entering the workforce after graduating from high school.

Morissette admits he knew of the co-op program, but not the myriad of opportunities for skill building available to students before taking it on three years ago.

"There is a real need for students to have these opportunities. It's a really, really great way that I don't think a lot of people are realizing and understanding. I can even say after teaching in a class room for 25 years where I taught different levels of student streaming in my classrooms, but I've learned a lot just in what co-op is about and what it can do for students and what it can do for career pathways," he said.

He adds co-op is an ideal opportunity to give teens handson experience in placements for a potential career path, which is a contrast from the predominant in-class theoretical learning in high school.

It also helps to break down perceived barriers.

"Give opportunities to everyone. I've had many girls pursuing the trades. We have to break down those barriers. They've been awesome. They've been amazing. Highly successful," he said. "I think of history. During the war years – I taught that in school myself – all of these amazing woman were building all of our stuff for years and doing an incredible job. I think everybody understands and knows they're incredibly skilled. We need them and so I'm passionate about making those connections as well and had several success stories just in the little time I've been doing it," he said.

There are other benefits for students, who not only receive practical skill development, but also gain perspective about the purpose and function of education for careers.

"What co-op can do for students is it can really teach students about the things employers are looking for. It can help them make connections. It can help build practical skills, life skills. When I say practical skills I'm saying taking some of



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School teacher Jason Morissette, who helps facilitate and coordinate the program encourages employers to contact him at (705) 457-2950 ext. 19440. /DARREN **LUM Staff**

that school theory that they've been learning for years and years and now actually – what I hear from students – is I'm actually going to use this," he said.

He adds co-op can provide the first-hand glimpse into a student's chosen field to decide if it's what they want to do and if it's worth the investment of time and money to pursue following high school.

Co-op can be beneficial to some students, who don't learn as effectively by listening to a lecture as they do by getting to do something.

"Everybody learns differently. Many, many students are very kinesthetic and in school in many ways sometimes we've gotten away from kinesthetic learning programs. A lot of programs, again, some kids are stuck at a desk. They're not moving around. They're not using their hands and being mobile," he said.

None of this is possible without the participation of the community members who open their doors to mentor and teach the students, sharing their expertise and experience,

"It is the community that volunteers and partners to allow the kids – I say this to the students – the privilege. It's not a right. It's a privilege and an earned privilege to go out and be partnered with a community volunteer," he said.

He adds employers want students to come with literacy and mathematics skills learned in school, but also want them to come with an openness to learning, willing to work, and to take responsibility in fulfilling duties.

He stresses co-op is for all students whatever their aspirations may be.

"You might be pursuing an apprenticeship program at college. You might be pursuing a college program. You might be pursuing university and you may be pursuing direct employment out of high school. The biggest thing [about cooperative education is] we have to think about is we can't be narrow minded [and think it's] just an opportunity to build people into the skilled trades. No, if you look at co-op throughout the province co-op is really encouraged for every student to have the benefit or the opportunity to try this out,'

He adds these placements can be the first employment experience for some students and has the potential to lead to summer work for students.

I said to my students your co-op placement in many cases every day is a tryout. So, treat it like a tryout where you're going and trying your best. You're learning. Your employer knows you're young and maybe they know that you're inexperienced. You should know that too. The biggest thing is try your best and no matter what try do be and always be conscious of being safe all the time," he said.

After 25 years as a teacher, Morissette said he wasn't entirely clear on what the Specialist High Skills Major program was about until he started coordinating co-op. It enables students to focus on a career path to match their skills and interests while meeting the requirements of the OSSD.

Students can earn a SHSM seal on their diploma when they

complete eight to 10 courses related to their selected field of study, earn industry certifications such as first aid and CPR qualifications, and learn skills on the job during the co-op placement

Through SHSM, there is a pathway to earn a Red Seal certification.

Formally known as the Interprovincial Standards Red Seal Program, the program sets common standards to assess the skills of tradespeople across Canada. The Red Seal endorsement is earned by trade workers who have passed the Red Seal examination.

There's also the dual credit program, the accelerated OYAP program, he said, which enables a select group of students in the province to earn high school and college credits at the same time. Last year, there were two HHSS students who took carpentry courses at Durham College while attending high school. Both are now working in carpentry in Haliburton County.

When I look at that, that motivates," he said.

Co-op also offers students an opportunity to register with the OYAP.

When students register they are entered in the system and can become an apprentice and earn hours in high school towards college requirements in specific fields to be a marine tech, carpenter, and plumber, he said. He adds a plumber needs a little more than 8,000 hours to earn a license, an electrician needs a little more than 8,000 hours so getting hours in high school will help expedite the process of becoming a trade professional.

The advancement of technology has also added to education requirements for students.

"Technology is just going up and up and up. What's going inside a car or a truck is just getting more and more [technologically advanced]. Students need to be educated in this and if they can be educated in OYAP and transfer those hours over their licensing can come sooner. The huge part of this is if the employer is happy with what they're seeing and want to take on an apprentice now you sign the Registered Trade Agreement (RTA). I've done a couple of them. I'd love to be able to do more of them with students in our area because that is the ultimate to see a young student already in high school signed up as an apprentice knowing they're going to be taken in by an expert and shown [how and what to do] for the next four or five years and get their license for the future. That's like being accepted in the program of their dreams," he said. "The hard part is to get those RTAs. If we want our students to have these future opportunities and to have better skilled training and make those links and, again, retain them in our area for our economy, more RTAs are going to need to be signed, as the next generation comes up and the other generation retires who's going to be building those homes? Who's going to be fixing our cars?"

The long-time teacher encourages community partners to contact him about placements by calling him at the high school 705-457-2950 ext. 19440. In particular there is a shortage in the trades.

Cicigoi debut helps Huskies tame the Cougars

by ALEX GALLACHER

Special to the Times

A 39-save shut out by Christian Cicigoi and an Oliver Tarr hat trick was the fuel to help the Haliburton County Huskies blank the Cobourg Cougars 5-0, Saturday at the S.G Nesbitt Memorial Arena. A packed house played witness to a team hungry to avenge their opening day loss against the Lindsay Muskies. Coming home from a three game road trip with two wins and a loss, the Huskies made a statement with a very commanding shutout victory.

From the opening drop of the puck, the Huskies had complete control of the game. Starting off with two fantastic chances by Tarr, any momentum the Cougars thought they had was swiftly crushed. The Tarr show didn't stop there, the first goal of the game would come at 7:15 in the first period. A textbook feed from Patrick Saini, put the Uxbridge, Ontario forward in prime position to backhand the puck up over Carter Tahk to give the Huskies the first lead of the game.

A few good chances from the Cougars fell by the wayside as Tarr wasn't done scoring. Nathan Porter set up Tarr just past the midway point of the period, blasting a bullet of a shot past Tahk to double the Huskies lead. Roughly 40 seconds later, Del Mar, California forward Davis Bone cashed in on a feed from Isaac Sooklal to score his first goal as a Huskies player and give the team a three goal lead heading into the first intermission.

Less than a minute into the second period, Tarr made more team history. Capitalizing on another perfect pass from Saini, Tarr lit



Huskies shut out the Cougars on home ice. /ALEX GALLACHER Special to the Echo

the lamp again to score the first hat trick in Huskies history. The final goal of the tilt came off the stick of Lucas Stevenson at the 17 min mark, his first as a Huskie and first career OJHL goal. While the third period recorded no scoring, the Cobourg Cougars would have nothing for the Huskies who held on for the 5-0 win.

Outshooting the Cougars 52-39, the fans were treated to a near perfect game of hockey. Moving to a record of 3-2-0-0, the Huskies now trail the Lindsay Muskies and Wellington Dukes by a single point in the

East division. While sitting a further eight points back of the undefeated division leader: the Trenton Golden Hawks.

"This was probably the most solid 60 minutes of hockey we have played all season," said Huskies head coach Ryan Ramsay. "The team just worked so well together and had complete control from the start, it's really nice to get our first home victory in front of a packed house."

For goaltender Christian Cicigoi, his debut was as perfect as perfect could get. Since being acquired from the Powassan Voodoos on Oct. 13, the former North Bay Battalion netminder was eager to make a good first impression on the Huskies fans. With a 39 save shutout, the first in team history, the Thunder Bay, Ontario native was elated after being named first star of the game.

"The guys on this team just made it so easy for me," Cicigoi said. "It was so much fun out there and the people here are amazing. Overall it was a great win for us and I can't wait to get back on the ice."

To nobody's surprise, Tarr went out and put on another stellar performance putting him atop everyone's players to watch list. With a total of six goals so far this season, Tarr moves into a three way tie with Milton's Jordan Stock and Toronto Jr Canadians' Eric Vitale for the league lead. The 19-year-old was buzzing post game after his best showing of the year.

"It's so much fun to go out there and light the lamp," Tarr said. "The guys gave me so many good chances and it doesn't matter what barn you're in, it's always amazing to go out and score goals in front of a crowd like the one we had."

The Huskies will be on the road Monday, Oct. 18 as they face off in the second leg of the home and home series with the Cobourg Cougars. Wednesday, Oct. 20 they will hit the ice at the iconic St. Michael's College to take on the St. Michaels' Buzzers, before coming back home Saturday, Oct. 23 to host their second game against the Wellington Dukes. The Huskies fell 5-1 against the Dukes in their first meeting and will be hungry for some revenge. Puck drop is scheduled for 4:30 p.m., at the S.G Nesbitt Memorial



Visiting Saints steal win against Hawks

by DARREN LUM Times Staff

After opening the Kawartha High School Field Hockey League season with a home loss against the Hurricanes the week before, the Red Hawks girls' field hockey team was able to take the energy from the home crowd and enable them to sustain an intensity worthy of a win for the duration of the game against the top-ranked Saints from St. Peter Catholic Secondary School.

Despite the strong play, it wasn't enough against the undefeated Saints' side that included two elite players said the Hawks head coach, Steve Smith and the team's three captains, Bella Smolen, Brook Stover and Cassidy McMullen.

Coach Smith wrote in a message, "The Saints have a couple of key players who dominate the play with their stick handling and movement of the ball. The team plays very aggressively but, clean, no real rough plays. They collapse on defence and put many bodies in the circle to defend. This will create opportunities for our girls moving forward."

Before the game, he told the Hawks side to remember the pressure was on the opposition.

"I told the girls that they were playing next week regardless of the outcome of this game and the pressure was mostly on the Saints to remain unbeaten. I told them that they have had a great week of practices and to be proud of where they have come in a short turnaround since starting off as a "club" initially and then having to decide whether to be competitive against other schools. This was a group decision which I supported," he said.

He continued, "The goal for this game was to be smart about where and when opportunities arose and to capitalize on them. We had a lot of opportunities during the first half and the girls played extremely well against the Saints."

Following the loss, the Hawks players came together for

Co-captain Stover explained the team's performance belied this result and was deserving of a cheer.

"We cheered because we may not have won point wise, but we played really well and had ... a lot of it was very evened out," she said.

Co-captain Smolen added the team wasn't only strong for the first half like the week before against the Hurricanes, but for the entire game.

"At the half, we kind of shut down, but this week we played straight through," she said.

She pointed out the Hawks kept the game close, losing 1-nil, which was a better goal differential when compared to the Hurricanes, who lost 4-1 to the Saints.

Co-captain McMullen said she was just happy to have been able to play at all after the pandemic left the team without a season. She believed her team was better prepared than the first game.

Stover said first game jitters were a factor last week and this wasn't the case against the Saints.

"A lot of it is a lot of our team has never played a game before, so that was our first game for a lot of us and now we're more experienced from the other game and we learned from our last one and applied it here," she said.

Spacing between players and execution of plays has improved, she added.

This Saints game also provided an insight to the Hawks about areas the team needs to improve with such as the "diamond" defensive scheme said McMullen. A momentary lapse allowed a break in the defence for the Saints to find



Above, Saints players flank Red Hawks player Ava Smith during Kawartha field hockey action on Tuesday, Oct. 12 at the Gary G. Brohman Athletic Field in Haliburton. The Saints beat the Hawks 1-nil to remain undefeated./DARREN LUM Staff

the back of the net in the second half.

The Hawks and the Hurricanes will square off this week in a Kawartha semi-final game.

The winner will play the Saints the next week for the Kawartha title. In the case of a tie, the team with the better goal differential will advance to play the Saints, which will be the Hawks, who are negative two while the Hurricanes are negative three. Both games are at 3 p.m. The Kawartha champion will advance to OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations) championship because this year there won't be COSSA (Central Ontario Secondary Schools Association) championship.

Typically there would be two games in the day, but with COVID-19 protocols there is only one game a week

The captains' message to their team moving forward is to "To be loud and be proud."

Stover said she wants the team to get excited and Smolen said it will help the players to play with their heads up to ensure they can see the play develop, ensuring there is spacing and to prevent fouls of obstruction.

"Considering the times we're in it's great. Things have gotten back to slightly normal," Stover said.

Smith said it was coaching errors this game like last game that contributed to challenges on the pitch.

"Again, a couple of coaching changes made for a tired bunch of girls who had to maintain their cool during a barrage of short corners - eight. The defence and goalies had their work cut out for them during that time," he said. "The goal today was to compete and they did more than do that and gave the first place team something to talk about on the



Red Hawks captain Brook Stover shields the ball from a Saints player.

way back home."

Smith said the team is coming together well this short

"The girls are starting to gel as a team and improving each and every day. As coaches we are extremely proud of them," he said.





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Do You Remember ... Ida Maude Noice?

N OUR LAST column, we asked about the locations of Dr Charles Curry's brick home on Newcastle Street in Minden and his daughter Isabel Curry's cottage on Gull Lake.

Two Gull Lake residents – Dave Robinson and Marilyn Hagerman - supplied information about Isabel's cottage, and both men-



ADELE ESPINA History in the Highlands

tioned Isabel's good friend Ida Maude Noice.

Ida was born in 1882 to Edward Noice and Mary Jane Welch. Her father was a prosperous general merchant and her parents' ancestors

among the earliest settlers in the area.

Isabel Curry and Ida Maude Noice were lifelong friends who spent their childhood in Minden, became professional nurses and returned to Minden to retire.

Ida lived a very long life. In an interview with the Minden Times on her 100th birthday, she described how she left Minden to study at Whitby Ladies' College, then in 1898 entered the Ottawa General School of Nursing and graduated from the Lady Stanley Institute for trained nurses. She also revealed that as a young woman, she had been engaged to a doctor, but he had died. She never married.

Like three of her brothers, she volunteered

for service in WW1. Enlisting as a Lieutenant Nursing Sister in Toronto in December 1916, she worked for just two weeks before her tonsils became infected while working in the tonsillitis ward of Toronto Base Hospital. This caused acute mastoiditis, necessitating an operation which left her deaf in one ear and with permanent tinnitus.

This condition made her medically unfit for overseas duty. Once recovered, she served at the Davisville Convalescent Hospital in Toronto and later at the Spadina Military Hospital. After the war she worked as a private nurse, and lived with her parents who had moved to Toronto during WW1.

In the 1930s, Ida and Isabel purchased adjoining lots on the Gull River, about 200 meters north of the outlet to Gull Lake. Dave Robinson remembers visiting Miss Noice and Miss Curry at their nearby cottages as a young boy.

Ida retired to Minden in 1956. Like her friend Isabel, she was a member of the St. Paul's Anglican Church Women's Auxiliary and the Minden Women's Institute. A 1961 local newspaper clipping described their five-week holiday by train to the west coast. "Both ladies felt very well after their lengthy trip and must have enjoyed watching the scenery from the dome of the train."

In 1970, Ida suffered a stroke and was admitted to Sunnybrook Military Hospital where she lived until her death in 1983. She is buried in her brother Walter's family plot in Minden Cemetery.



Ida M. Noice with soldiers at a Toronto military hospital. /Photo courtesy of Marilyn Hagerman from the Margo and Karl Sprogis collection

From last time:

Minden Women's Institute Tweedsmuir scrapbooks, originally donated to the library, but now in safekeeping at the Minden Hills Museum, contain the information that Angus & Lydia Coulter moved into Dr. Curry's brick home on the "south east corner [of] Newcastle and St. Germain Streets" in Minden village in 1947. The house is an imposing structure, still used as a private residence, and is partially sheltered from view by large trees. Photocopies

of the scrapbooks can be viewed in the Haiiburton Highlands Genealogy Group room at the Minden library.

Thank you to Dave Robinson and Marilyn Hagerman for the information they supplied for this article. Marilyn will soon be publishing a book "Cottage Culture: Gull Lake, Minden Ontario."

Next time: Do you remember the War Brides? Share your stories to sue@ haliburtonpress.com.

Sudoku brought to you by

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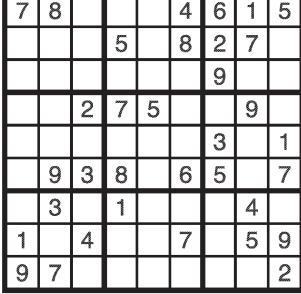
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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 17



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the Planning Act and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT An electronic meeting will be held Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. to consider these applications.

AND FURTHER THAT this meeting will be held through remote electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended.

The media and the general public can view the Land Division Committee meeting webcast via the County of Haliburton YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/JpDX_WMvgjs

AND FURTHER THAT these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

1. File No. H-025/21

Applicant: Annemarie and Harriet Graham

Location of the Property: Pt Lot 1, Concession 2, and Pt Lot 5, Concession A Geographic Township of Snowdon, Now in the Township of Minden Hills

Nature of the Application: Easement for access

Additional information regarding the above applications is available for public inspection electronically by request during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 20 day of October, 2021.

Secretary-Treasurer Haliburton County Land Division Committee 11 Newcastle Street P. O. Box 399 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 Telephone: (705) 286-1333 or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 248 Fax: (705) 286-4829 E-mail: Igillan@haliburtoncounty.ca

GENERATIONS

Untitled poem

Summer January One day will end With The colors beside the illusion thats changing without any vivid dreams

It ends with the feeling that it actually might care Sun sleeps deeper With every opportunity butchered how stupid it would be to apologize When the The sound waves grown And everything's older

It's not the words used It's how long those words have actually been there Mindscape flips when you're tired and thrown When we have winter August Happier but darker

By Taliah Dumas-Stephenson

Moving from there to here

Moving from Mississauga to Haliburton was quite the experience. First, there was looking for a house during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a whole new set of rules regarding house-buying. Rules that stated only two people could enter the house with the realtor at a time. Therefore, half the time, my sister and I weren't even allowed to go inside, contributing to lots of six-hour long drives where we were trapped in the car from the time we left to the time we got home, excusing wanders outside the properties.

I suppose an inevitable part of moving is feeling alone. That was expected, but something I internally struggled with, being separated from friends I'd had since Grade 1. My new street was far too quiet. To look out and, at times, see not a single car or person truly felt strange. Living in the city was a bustle, full of commotion, and you heard cars and people 24-7. However, the most unfavourable difference was the fact that I had already been void of social interaction for months during the online school period, which did nothing to encourage socialization in me when we moved to Haliburton.

The most peculiar thing was waking up one day, look-

ing out my window, and seeing nothing but trees, the grass painted red with fallen leaves because in Mississauga, I saw a barren-looking backyard, and the shadows my neighbour's house cast across the deck.

And during all of this, there was another terror, lurking in the back of my mind: School. Walking into the first day of a new school in a new town where everyone knew everyone was nothing if not startling. I expected to be lost, I expected to be lonely, and I expected to be afraid. But getting off the bus at the end of the day, I realized it had to be one of the best first days of school I'd ever had. Everyone was surprisingly welcoming and friendly, the teachers were great, and, I had survived. All good things, considering how treacherous I had anticipated the day to be.

It was a change, and one that took me months to get used to. All in all, moving to Haliburton has been a lot. Moving in general is a lot, no matter where you're going! But it has been totally worth it.

By Adela Hubbard

Kandinsky in the halls

The bulletin board seen here was created by the HHSS PA&LS class. "Students have spent the last few weeks creating these pieces using all sorts of different mediums." said Brianne Pockett, educational assistant. "They used pencil crayons, markers, crayons, paint, and pastels. This artwork is based on the work of Wassily Kandinsky and his use of concentric circles." / Photo submitted





County of Haliburton Notice

2022 Budget

The Council of the County of Haliburton wishes to provide PUBLIC NOTICE that Haliburton County Council will be reviewing the 2022 Budget at their regular scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting on Wednesday, November

And that further 2022 budget discussions will occur thereafter at regularly scheduled Committee of the Whole meetings until the budget is approved.

- Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- Wednesday January 12, 2022
- Wednesday February 9, 2022

Michael Rutter, CAO/County Clerk 11 Newcastle Street P. O. Box 399 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 Telephone: (705) 286-1333 or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 223 Fax: (705) 286-4829 e-mail: mrutter@haliburtoncounty.ca

Interact Club carves out plans for year

The HHSS Interact Club has started up again this year. As a Grade 9 student, I joined it as my first extracurricular club. Interact is a teen branch of the Rotary Club. Our motto as a club is "Service Above Self." This past Friday we had an

introduction to the club and a day of team building and planning for the year, at Abbey Gardens. It was a great day!

By Annabelle Borgdorff

The HHSS Interact Club gathered around a bonfire during a teambuilding and planning day held Oct. 15 at Abbey Gardens.



Victoria Robertson, Annabelle Borgdorff and Ravyn Rideout get creative with clothing design. / Photos by Rebeka Borgdorff





Sophia Gervais, left, Naiomi Bainbridge and a freshly carved jack-o'-lantern.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	8	9	2	3	4	6	1	5
3	6	1	5	9	8	2	7	4
2	4	5	6	7	1	9	8	3
6	1	2	7	5	3	4	9	8
8	5	7	9	4	2	3	6	1
4	9	3	8	1	6	5	2	7
5	3	8	1	2	9	7	4	6
1	2	4	3	6	7	8	5	9
9	7	6	4	8	5	1	3	2

This page brought to you by staff and students at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. Interested in being a student contributor? Email sue@haliburtonpress.com.



As of Monday October 18th

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- Visit www.mindenhills.ca for more info. and to find out what COVID protocols are currently in place. MINDEN HILLS

AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



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Sarah Teljeur pulls fresh greens for dinner from the aquaponics system her family built a couple of years ago on their property in "Metropolitan Gelert." "Because water flows through the system on a regular basis, it's almost frost-proof. We can grow lettuce from April to November," said her dad, John. / Submitted by John Teljeur

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to sue@ haliburtonpress.com.



Dying to win

Grade 2 student Grayson Pelley and Jaxon Pelley, a senior kindergarten student, created this skeletal masterpiece that is sure to get a laugh out of Habs fans. /Submitted by Candi Pelley



A legend in Irondale

Madeleine Howarth celebrated her 102nd birthday on Aug. 28. Her family had property in Irondale, and when she was a kid she spent many a summer in Irondale often going by train from Richmond Hill. Madeleine and her husband Harold Howarth then moved to Irondale full time in 1976. Both of them were artists and were known in the area for painting local scenes. She still spends some time each summer in Irondale. Although COVID has forced a pause on this over the last two years, she hopes to get back next summer! Madeleine has 12 greatgrandchildren, many of whom try to get to Irondale as much as they can. /Photo submitted by Amanda Macdougall

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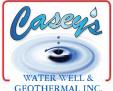
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We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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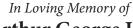
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Arthur George Hosken

Born on January 27, 1948 and passed away at his home in Minden on Monday, October 4, 2021 in his 73 year.

Beloved husband of Evelyn Hosken (nee Nesbitt). Dear father of Colleen Bath, James (Tammy) Hosken, and Susan Hosken. Loving grandfather of Christopher,

Chanelle(Nathan), Cynthia (Dan), Joleen (Matt), Sarah, Antany, and great grandfather of Stephen, Annabelle, Airianna, Phillip, Tobias, Jazmine, Kida, Lila, Danahe, Chloe and Calum. Brother of Linda, Darlene and predeceased by Rosemary. Art is fondly remembered by his family and friends.

A Memorial Gathering to celebrate Art's life will be held at the Haven of Rest Chapel, 1449 Old Donald Rd., Haliburton on Saturday, October 9, 2021 beginning at 11:00 am. Cremation has taken place.

Arrangements entrusted to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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In Loving Memory of

Kathy Annette McKelvey-Brown

Passed away after a hard fought 19 year battle with Cancer on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 with her loving family by her side.

Beloved mother of Darrin Brown and Braydin Hollows (Melissa). Dear sister of Sharon, Linda (Butch) (both deceased), Brenda (deceased) and Wendy. Loving aunt of Tammy (Joe), Shawn, John (Steph), Duston (Meag) and Dakota. Grandma to the absolute loves of her life Declan, Ronnie and her soon to be born wee brother.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden KOM 2KO on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. A Private Celebration of Kathy's Life will be held at the funeral home. The service will be live streamed and will be available to view on our website for one week following the service. The link for the service is in the Photos and Videos and will appear the day of the service at 1:30 pm. Cremation has taken place.

Please Note # Due to COVID-19 Restrictions, a limited amount of visitors will be allowed in the Funeral Home at one time and all remaining visitors will have to line up outside of the Funeral Home. Social distancing with face coverings and lists of attendees, names and phone numbers are required for contact tracing.

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Special thanks to my earth angels, my boys, Lindy, Jane, Jane and Craig for all your help and meals.



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Dr. Harry E. Good

1988 Highlander chosen

Dr. Harry E. Good has been named the 1988 Highlander of the Year. The award was made Wednesday evening at the annual meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, held at Wig-a-

The introduction of this year's recipient of the annual award was made by Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey. He told the audience Dr. Good had been chosen for the award because of his contribution as a medical practicioner and, "for giving generously of himself, his talents and for sharing his gains with the community.

Among the numerous achievements cited in presenting the award, was Dr. Good's ongoing concern for the physical and emotional well-being of the citizens of the community. "He has been a constant supporter of the Haliburton Hospital and provided financial and moral support for the new Fearrey said. "For 30 years he has been available night and day for



medical, emotional or any 1988 Highlander of the Year, Dr. Harry E. Good, is presented with a plaque by Dysart et al Reeve Fearrey at the annual gathering of the Haliburton Highland (more on page 7) Chamber of Com merce, Wednesday.

Ride stays intact

splitting next summer's Ontario Ride For Sight into two groups has been ruled out and Minden is once again being given the option of hosting the massive motorcycle extravaganza.

Rick Start, who is the national co-ordinator for summer and Start is not tosis. predicting a great deal of

"It takes towns like this to make this thing a success..."

Start, along with the provincial chairman Sid Sollier and Gerry German, the Ride, told Anson, attended a recent council Hindon and Minden coun-meeting to provide an Hindon and Minden council that he believes the update on the group's Ontario chapter of this activities and plans for the fund-raising event has coming year. The next "topped out" in terms of Ride will mark the 10th the number of people who anniversary of this event, will be participating. There which is designed to raise motorcycles money for research into a involved in the Ride last cure for Retinitis Pigmen- participants is expected to

growth for the coming election just around the the amount of promotion

corner, council was not able to provide confirmation that the municipality would accept the Ride back for another year. Council members felt this decision should be made by those who are elected on November 14.

The tentative date for next year's Ride is the weekend of June 10 and 11. Although the number of stay about the same, With the municipal organizers will be boosting

for the event and have set a fundraising target of \$1million for Ontario alone. Last year, the Ontario Ride raised about \$700,000.

Another reason the Ride is not being split is the fact that this is the 10th anniversary and they want to make sure it is a success. Start told council that participants enjoy coming to Minden because they know the fun they are going to have and the warm welcome from the community.

"It takes towns like this to make this thing a success right across the country," Start said. He also noted

(more on page 7)

Glass shares water concerns

Candidates face off

Free trade may be the dominant issue on a national level in this federal election campaign, but when the local candidates visit Haliburton County there is no escaping the fact that people want answers to the water levels problem.

Three of the candidates who hope to replace Bill Scott as the Victoria - Haliburton Member of Parliament fielded a variety of questions from area media representatives during a debate at the Dysart Com-munity Centre last Wednesday evening. But it was plain to see by the reaction of the audience that the main reason they had come out that night was to hear what the candidates are going to do to solve the problem of fluctuating water levels in Haliburton's

The small audience paid passive attention as candidates Bruce Glass (Liberal), Cathy Vainio (NDP) and Archie Dobbins (Commonwealth of Canada) addressed the issues of taxes, free trade and abortion. But when the question of dealing with water levels was put to the candidates, there was a quick shuffling of chairs as people sat forward to listen.

Glass, who is representing the Liberals in his second election run, proved to be well versed on this issue. Vainio admitted a lack of understanding and Dobbins blamed it on the new computers used in the

"I'd be prepared to go to bat for you"

If elected, Glass promises to provide the necessary representation in Ottawa that has been lacking in recent years. "As your representative, I'd be prepared to go to bat for you," he said. The problem has existed for decades; "we can't keep putting it off with studies."

There have been at least three studies carried out on the problems with water levels in area lakes since the early 1960's, but the political will to finally solve the troubles has been missing. The extremely hot and dry summers of the past two years caused lake levels to plummet to new lows, while public concern has

The problem, as outlined by Glass is two-fold. There is a shortage of reservoir capacity to offset flooding and drought in the top end of the Trent-Severn Waterway and there is a pollution problem which demands continuous flushing at Peterborough.

Increasing the reservoir capacity in Haliburton will be a costly venture, but Glass says the government "have to bite the bullet and spend the money."

The problem in the lower part of the waterway is more complex. Unless strong flows are maintained, Rice Lake "will become a cess pool" from the discharges from Peterborough's sewage treatment plants. The solution here will take the co-operation of the province and the City of Peterborough to upgrade its sewage plant He noted that the federal Liberals have promised \$5-billion will be set aside for this sort

(more on page 7)

egacy.

From humble beginnings in 1953, we have grown to become a recognized insurance brokerage in the Highlands. When my grandfather, Floyd Hall, started the brokerage he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

Minden 705.286.1270 Haliburton 705.457.1732 ghall@floydhallinsurance.com

Floyd Hall Limited
Insurance Brokers





Grass Lake \$999,000

• 4 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom

• Fisherman's paradise

• 5 chain lake system

• B & B potential







- Old Donald Road \$549,900 3 bed 2 bath 1560sf home
- Completely renovated and updated
- New windows, furnace, a/c, septic
- 2.3 acres, paved school bus route

50's Diner

- Established 64 seat restaurant
- Well known for 7 years Loyal clientele
- Owner/operator opportunity





The Seasons are Changing

- And so is the Real Estate Market
- For more information call today
- And let our 28+ years of experience work for you



Haliburton Commercial Lease

Prime Downtown Retail Space Opportunity

Apprx 2100 Sq Ft, Large Display Windows

• Busy Corner of Highland St & Maple Ave







• 8 acres, 300ft SW facing waterfront

Sand beach, 2 wet slip boathouses

•2 guest cabins, both 2 bdrm & bath

Gull Lake \$2,499,000

•1900sf, 1 bedroom, 2 bath



Tom Ecclestone' 286-2138 x 226

Gooderham

- Almost 17 acres with 345' on Irondale River
- 2 lots-in-one, with year-round access





Minden Lake \$1,100,000

- · 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2500sf
- Sunroom, full walkout basement
- 180ft lakefront, sandy shoreline
- Close to Minden Whitewater Preserve













Country Home \$429,000

- Renovated 3 bedroom, 2 bath home
- Over 1,200 sq ft of living space
- •1+ acres overlooking a private pond • Enjoy deeded access to Tamarack Lake

Miskwabi Lake Lot

- •1.15 acres on Miskwabi Lake · Gorgeous hard sand and rock shoreline
- Easy year-round road access20 minutes to Haliburton Village

Fleming Rd \$499,000

- •100 acres of land
- 900 sq ft cabin w/solar power
- 2 bdrm w/kitchen and living rm

Haliburton Home \$449,000

- 3 bedroom, 2 bath, unfinished bsmt
- Starter home or rental investment Deeded 20 ' Right of Way to Head Lake
- Walking distance to college, ski trails













3 bedrooms, 2 baths home/cottage

Unfinished basement w/walkout

Bunkie, stairs to waterfront











Gooderham Home \$559,000

- Stylish modern home with 2 levels finished
- Garage/Shop
- On a quiet street



















Halls Lake \$795,000

Close to town

3 Bed, 2 Bath · West exposure, sandy beach



Miskwabi Lake \$1,400,000

- 2274sf, 4-bedroom, 2 bath, built 2006 Open concept, floor-ceiling stone FP
- Sand/rock shoreline, 2 lake chain Great privacy & WEST exposure
- - Kennisis Lake \$1,600,000
 - Turn-key 2,700 SF waterfront home Open concept, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths
 - 200+ FT on peaceful Paddy's Bay
 - Premium Lake boating on Kennisis

Salerno Lake \$349,000 • 172' waterfront Lot, 1.17 acres

 Sunset exposure · Ideal for walkout basement











Gooderham Area \$359,900

2.71 acres with a large pond and forest area.

Investment opportunity.

Or single-family home.

Needs some TLC.





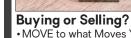
We are open for business!

Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients' safety.

Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

County Road 21 \$750,000

- Commercial property in Haliburton
- Prime corner location, 1.5 acres
- · Rental house as an added feature · Sale includes land, & building



• MOVE to what Moves You! ·CLIENT focused! Results Driven!

Free Evaluations, Call Me Today!

CENTURY 21

Granite Realty Group Inc.

PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!

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